

principally from the crystalline rocks and trappean insertions, which form the great mountains of Westmoreland, Cumberland, and part of Scotland; but with underlying beds and intermixtures of local drifts, indicating previous formation and being of less extent. It proceeds from its origin, tapering southwards, and turned by the mountains of North Wales, till it comes up to the boundary of the South Welsh and Severn region just mentioned; and there it stops. It skirts that region along its northern and western limit, but does not ascend into it: and it has also an eastern limit, which proves that a large portion of our island on that side then stood above the waters. Between these limits, this drift is contracted, till it terminates in a roughly pointed form upon the river Severn, where was either the point of a bay, or the straits might be prolonged into a wide sea towards the south. Hence some conclusions of importance force themselves upon our conviction.

The first is, that the country occupied by the local drift had been raised above the level of the sea which flowed up to its northern and eastern frontier.

The second, that the waters bringing this newer drift from the north, did not flow over the region already occupied by the local and more ancient drift. But there is evidence that both these formations were effected in periods much more remote than the date of the flood in the days of Noah, and even before the creation of man and his contemporary animals. We are therefore compelled to the conclusion that this flood was not absolutely universal: for, had it been so, the diluvial waters must have carried forwards the northern drift, mingled with other stones, gravel, and mud; and so have overspread the previous Silurian bed.

Thirdly: this newest drift carries further evidence that it was not deposited by any transient rush of a body